

The role of usability in security and privacy in Information Systems within the GDPR era

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GDPR and Organisations

- EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR, EU 2016/679):
 - Transformation of business processes and information systems
 - Focus on the secure management of personal data related to EU citizens
 - Application to aspects that have not attracted much attention
 - Redesign of entire flows of data within organisations, business processes, data leaving the organisation, etc.



Reformation of Organisations: The role of usability

- Involvement of stakeholders:
 - Specialised IT members (possibly with security background)
 - Simple users working on any kind of IT, or other, system
- Usability
 - A sine qua non condition when designing IT systems and services
- Goal: To maintain high usability levels whilst complying to the GDPR



Reformation of Organisations: by-design principles

- Reformation, or just the changes, at organisational and technical level:
 - Application of data protection by design and by default principles (GDPR, Art. 25)
 - Implementation of appropriate technical and organisational measures (GDPR, Art. 32)
- Security- and privacy-by-design approaches should be followed
 - Support by appropriate security and privacy requirements engineering methodologies and tools



Conclusions

- GDPR: opportunity to trigger change of behaviour and culture within all the workforce of an organisation
- It is of utmost importance:
 - To not simply apply the maximum security to comply with the GDPR
 - To identify the perfect balance between the enforcement of security and privacy at technical and organisational level, along with the satisfaction of usability requirements



Thank you for your attention

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